

# *Curt's Corner* . . . . .

Many of you may have heard of the Catholic School Scholarship Opportunity which will be available January 2, 2018. Through the “Invest in Kids Act,” the state of Illinois has created a new way to fund scholarships for children from low-income households who want to attend private schools. This program provides an opportunity for more students to receive a quality Catholic education. The tax credit scholarships offered through this program could cover up to 100 percent of tuition and fees for eligible, low-income students. Not all families will be eligible for the new scholarships, but we want to make sure all families are aware of the program.

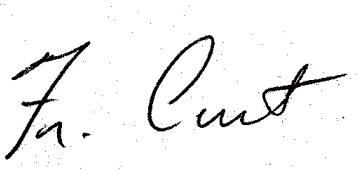
The scholarships offered through this program could cover up to 100 percent of tuition and fees for eligible students beginning next school year. If you have previously considered sending your child to a Catholic school but haven’t had the financial means to do so, this could be an exciting opportunity for your family.

This program also provides a great way for individuals and corporations to make donations that will have a direct impact on low-income families by helping them receive a quality Catholic education. Donors who make contributions to this program will receive a 75 percent state tax credit.

Interested families and potential donors can find the current information on tax credit scholarships, including the application process and how to donate on the Archdiocese of Chicago’s website, [archchicago.org/tcs](http://archchicago.org/tcs).

Program details are still being finalized, but you can find information on the scholarships, the application process and the “Frequently Asked Questions” (FAQ) on the Archdiocese of Chicago’s website, [archchicago.org/tcs](http://archchicago.org/tcs). If you have any questions about tax credit scholarships, please contact the Archdiocese at [InvestInKids@archchicago.org](mailto:InvestInKids@archchicago.org) or 312.534.5321.

*For additional information on the Tax Credit Scholarships, please see page 7.*



## **ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

### **2017/18 SCHOOL YEAR "INVEST IN KIDS" TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS**

#### ***What You Need to Know About the "Invest in Kids" Tax Credit Scholarships***

Through the "Invest in Kids Act", Illinois children from low-income households who want to attend private schools will have access to new scholarships. The scholarships offered through this program could cover up to 100 percent of tuition and eligible fees for the next school year. Below is more information about how to apply and details on eligibility requirements.

#### ***Tax Credit Scholarships***

Students from low-income households in grades K-12 have the opportunity to receive tax credit scholarships for the 2018/19 school year. These scholarships are funded by donors who receive a credit on their Illinois state income tax as a result of their donation.

#### ***Application Process***

Since this is a new program, application details are being finalized, and the Archdiocese will share them as soon as they are available. When the time comes, the Archdiocese will provide assistance by answering your questions and helping families complete the application.

#### ***Help Applying***

You will be able to get help applying for the scholarship in-person at a variety of events in your community in the coming months. The Archdiocese will share the dates and locations of these events as these details are finalized. For families whose first language is not English, we will have in-person resources available to help you through the application process.

#### ***Application Deadline***

You will need to apply for tax credit scholarships through a scholarship granting organization (SGO), which will manage this process, instead of the Archdiocese or your school directly. It is still being determined when the SGO may begin accepting applications and the deadline for submitting applications. The Archdiocese will provide more information as soon as it is available. Scholarships will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis, so it is very important that when the application process begins, you apply early.

#### ***How to Qualify***

Eligibility to receive a scholarship is based on your family's household income. For example, a student could receive a scholarship if his/her family income is less than \$73,700 a year for a family of four. See chart below for more information on eligibility for tax credit scholarships.

#### ***Scholarship Amount***

Your family could receive a scholarship that covers up to 100 percent of tuition and eligible fees for the next school year. See the chart below that shows how much you could receive to cover tuition based on your income for a family of four.

#### ***Household Income Per Year Eligible Scholarship Amount for a Family of Four***

Less than \$45,510 – 100 percent of tuition

\$45,510 – \$61,500 – 75 percent of tuition

\$61,500 - \$73,800 – 50 percent of tuition

To learn more, please visit [www.archchicago.org/tcs](http://www.archchicago.org/tcs) or contact the Archdiocese at [investinkids@archchicago.org](mailto:investinkids@archchicago.org) or at (312) 534-5321.